

25 MAY 1974

CIA # 303 W. Germany
Nollau, Guenther
SOC 4.01.12 W. Germany:
Capital

Bonn Leader Warns Against Spy Hysteria

Schmidt Says Magazine Charge Linking
Intelligence Official to Reds Is Nonsense

From Reuters

BONN — West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt warned Friday against an outbreak of "spy hysteria" as a result of the Guenter Guillaume espionage scandal.

In a radio interview Schmidt described the latest accusations against the chief of the federal counterintelligence agency as "stupid nonsense."

Guenther Nollau, president of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, was earlier alleged by Capital, an economic news magazine, to be suspected by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency of having connections with East Germany.

The magazine claimed to have a copy of a CIA report incriminating the 62-year-old top security man.

The hearing of an application by Nollau for a legal injunction to prevent Capital's publishing the accusations was adjourned Friday by a Cologne court until Monday.

The magazine is not due to publish until Thursday

but it circulated its allegations in advance to press, radio and television through news agencies.

The allegations have been flatly denied by the Bonn government and the U.S. State Department.

Nollau, who joined the counterintelligence agency in 1950 after fleeing from East Germany and has been chief of it since 1972, said Friday he will sue Capital for damages.

Capital alleged that Nollau was the "man behind Guenter Guillaume," whose arrest four weeks ago caused a government crisis and led to the resignation of Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Guillaume had been working as Brandt's personal political assistant.

In Friday's interview with North German Radio Schmidt appealed to the political parties not to poison the political atmosphere with mutual recriminations that spies and intelligence agents are everywhere at work behind the scenes.